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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/800,896	03/15/2004	Steve Sanchez	SANCHEZ #2	1502

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EXAMINER

VO, TUNG T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2621

DATE MAILED: 08/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/800,896

Applicant(s)

SANCHEZ, STEVE

Examiner

Tung Vo

Art Unit

2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 May 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 3,4,6,7,9-14,24,26 and 27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1,2,5,8 and 25 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3,4,6,7,9-14,24,26 and 27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 3-4, 6, and 24-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lin (US 6,826,859) in view of Kim (US 6,678,152 B2).

Re claims 24-27, Lin teaches apparatus (fig. 1) for connection to a flat panel TV screen (40 of fig. 1) to improve the appearance thereof and to facilitate operation of audio and video functions related to said flat panel TV screen (Note to operate the audio and video of the TV by using the remote control), said flat panel TV screen having a screen (42 of fig. 1) viewing area and a housing surrounding the screen viewing area, said apparatus including a frame (12 of fig. 1) having a frame (12 of fig. 1) opening larger than the size of the screen viewing area of the flat panel TV screen and a mat (30 of fig. 1) releasably attached to said frame extending inwardly from the frame into the frame opening, said mat (30 of fig. 1) being formed of material allowing passage there through of wireless control transmissions (Note the remote control wirelessly transmits the operation signal through the mat to operation the video and audio of the TV) and having a mat opening (Note the mate open would obviously smaller than the frame (14 of fig. 1) smaller than said frame opening, and connector structure (14 of fig. 1) for connecting said releasably attached frame and mat to said flat panel TV screen, said mat when said releasably

Art Unit: 2621

attached frame and mat are connected to said flat panel TV screen by said connector structure (14 of fig. 1) extending from said frame toward said screen viewing area and surrounding said screen viewing area, said mat (30 of fig. 1) being sized and configured to allow viewing of said screen viewing area through said frame opening and through said mat opening, said releasably attached frame and mat cooperable to substantially cover said housing and substantially shield said housing (fig. 5) from view by a person observing said screen viewing area while allowing control of audio and video functions by wireless control transmissions (the remote operates the TV); a mat attachment structure (22, 20 of fig. 1) for releasably attaching said mat to said frame whereby said mat may be removed from said frame and replaced by a substitute mat (figs. 3 and 6).

It is noted that a wireless receiver incorporated in said frame for receiving wireless transmissions from a transmitter external of said frame operatively associated with audio/video equipment external of said frame and receiving electronic signals from said audio/video equipment as claimed.

However, Kim teaches a wireless receiver (40 of fig. 2) incorporated in said frame (11 of fig. 2) for receiving wireless transmissions from a transmitter external (col. 1, lines 52-65) of said frame operatively associated with audio/video equipment external of said frame and receiving electronic signals from said audio/video equipment.

Therefore, taking the teachings of Lin and Kim together as a whole, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teachings of Kim into the apparatus of Lin in order to receive video and/or audio from an external without using any wire and to reduce a production cost of a displaying apparatus having the receiving unit. Doing so would

Art Unit: 2621

provide a compartment assembly of the frame able to reduce an assembling process of mounting a unit into the compartment to receive a video or audio signal.

Re claims 3 and 6, Lin further teaches wherein said connector structure (14 of fig. 1) comprises a plurality brackets attached to said frame and extending rearwardly from said frame, said brackets defining recesses receiving said housing at spaced locations on said housing (fig. 5, Note the frame (14 of fig. 1) obviously has brackets for mounting into the body frame of the display (figs. 5 and 8); and wherein said mat (20 and 22 of fig. 1) attachment structure maintains said mat (figs. 1-8) in a substantially planar condition.

Re claim 4, Lin further teaches at least one loudspeaker communicating with said frame opening (see col. 1, lines 25-30, Note the plasma television and crystal display would have at least one loudspeaker), said mat sound transmissive material (30 of fig. 1) and disposed over said at least one loudspeaker (Note the mat (30) covers the TV and cover the loudspeaker) and blocking said at least loudspeaker from view and through said frame opening when said releasely attached frame and mat are connected to said flat panel TV screen.

3. Claims 3-4, 6, 7-14, and 24-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Graham (US 6,901,987) in view of Kim (US 6,678,152 B2).

Re claims 3-4, 6, 7-14, and 24-27, Graham teaches all claimed limitations (figures 1-10) except a wireless receiver incorporated in said frame for receiving wireless transmissions from a transmitter external of said frame operatively associated with audio/video equipment external of said frame and receiving electronic signals from said audio/video equipment as claimed.

However, Kim teaches a wireless receiver (40 of fig. 2) incorporated in said frame (11 of fig. 2) for receiving wireless transmissions from a transmitter external (col. 1, lines 52-65) of said frame operatively associated with audio/video equipment external of said frame and receiving electronic signals from said audio/video equipment.

Therefore, taking the teachings of Graham and Kim together as a whole, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teachings of Kim into the apparatus of Graham in order to receive video and/or audio from an external without using any wire and to reduce a production cost of a displaying apparatus having the receiving unit. Doing so would provide a compartment assembly of the frame able to reduce an assembling process of mounting a unit into the compartment to receive a video or audio signal.

4. Claims 7-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lin (US 6,826,859) in view of Kim (US 6,678,152 B2) as applied to claims 24-27 above and further in view of Ive et al (US 5,810,461).

Re claims 7-9, 14, the combination of Lin and Kim does not particularly disclose an electronic component receptacle connected to said frame and defining a receptacle interior for receiving at least one electronic component selectively operatively associated with said flat panel TV screen as claimed.

However, Ive et al is in the same field of endeavor and makes well known an integral receptacle for housing electrical cables configured at the rear of a computer housing (figs. 1-6, Summary of the invention, col. 2, line 6-42, Note the cable receptacle has multiple compartments 18A-18D for housing different electrical cables from various peripheral equipment) for the

purpose of organizing the cables into a neater arrangement, and to dress out the appearance of the computer housing (col. 1, line 18-20).

Therefore, taking the combined teaching of Lin, Kim, and Ive et al as a whole, it would have been obvious to modify the flat panel TV frame that encloses the flat panel TV to also include receptacle(s) for housing electrical cables for the benefit of neater arrangement and to dress out the appearance of the frame as suggested in Ive et al.

Re claim 10, Ive further teaches receptacle connector structure releasably connecting said electronic component receptacle to said frame. (See fig. 1 of Ive et al).

Re claim 11 , Ive further teaches wherein said electronic component receptacle defines a plurality of primary openings communicating with said compartment interiors and facilitating selective installation or removal of said modular electronic components (See fig. 1 of Ive et al, e.g. element 24, also col. 2, line 10-13).

Re claim 12, Ive further teaches wherein said electronic component receptacle additionally defines a plurality of auxiliary openings for accommodating wires extending between modular electronic components received by said compartment interiors and said flat panel TV screen. (See fig. 1 of Ive et al, e.g. element 33).

Re claim 13, Ive further teaches additionally comprising an electrical connector receptacle for receiving a multi-outlet electrical connector employed to provide an electrical connection between said modular electronic components and a source of electricity. (See discussion in claims 7 and 11. A multi-outlet electrical connector qualifies as one of peripheral equipments. Hence, it can also be accommodated).

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

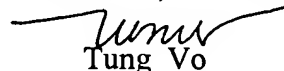
Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tung Vo whose telephone number is 571-272-7340. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad Dastouri can be reached on 571-272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2621

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Tung Vo
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2621